THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Earlier investigations established reserves of iron ore deposits in the area. Since 1985, G.S.I. is engaged in search of gold and heavy metals especially over conglomerate horizons. Investigation for gold is in preliminary stage and the results so far do not appear to be very encouraging.

(b) and (c) Further programme covers survey by reconnaissance and mapping of conglomerate horizons followed by large scale mapping in selected blocks.

Allotment of DDA flats to retired Government Servants

2137. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 395 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th February, 1987 and state:

(a) whether DDA are contemplating to invite fresh application from retired Government servants during the current year; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) It is not considered appropriate to open fresh registration when a large number of registrants are still awaiting allotment under D.D.A.'s various Housing Schemes

Cold storage capacity

2138. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 40 per cent of the fruits and vegetable and other perishables produced in the country are wasted or spoiled each year due to inadquate cold storage capacity;

(b) what is the total installed storage capacity and how much of this is under private, public and cooperative sectors;

(c) whether any steps are being taken to augment cold storage capacity and in which sector; and

(d) whether the cold storage Act, 1980 is being effectively implemented and whether there is a demand to further amend the Act to make it more elaborate and comprehensive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) No reliable information is available.

(b) As on 31st December, 1985, the total installed cold storage capacity in the country licenced under the relevant Acts/ Order was 50.99 lakh tonnes. This comprised of private sector 46.53 lakh tonnes, public sector 0.95 lakh tonnes and cooperative sector 3.51 lakh tonnes.

(c) The cold storage capacity in the cooperative sector is expected to be augmented to about 7.00 lakh tonnes by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(d) There is no cold storage Act, 1980. The Cold Storage Order, 1980, is being implemented as per the provisions contained therein. This Department has not so far received any demand for amendment of this Order.